Application No.: 10/039362 Docket No.: SMQ-047/P5187

REMARKS

Upon entry of this paper, claims 1-33 are pending. Independent claims 1, 8, 12, and 16 and dependent claim 3, 5, and 9 have been amended. New dependent claims 20-33 have been added. Dependent claims 4 and 18 are canceled. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-19 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by E. Kenneth Nwabueze (U.S. Patent No. 6,611,839 B1, hereafter Nwabueze). For the reasons set forth below, the Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Summary of Claimed Invention

The claimed invention discusses systems and methods of providing a software facility for formatting web-based reports based on the activities of a source database without requiring direct access to the database. This approach provides a way to maintain data consistency and system security. The claimed invention generates reports about the source database after determining that the current usage of the electronic device holding the source database does not exceed a parameter. A temporary database is used to generate reports to eliminate the security issues that arise with direct access to the source database. Temporary data and reports are removed from the temporary database after the reports are generated.

Summary of Claimed Amendments

Applicant has amended original independent claims 1, 8, and 12 to specify the step of determining that the current usage of the electronic device holding the source database does not exceed a parameter. Original independent claim 16 has been amended to specify the removal of old reports from the temporary database after a certain amount of time. The amended dependent claim 3 was amended to include dependent claim 4. The amended dependent claim 5 and 9 were amended to specify the removing of data from the temporary database after reports are generated, and the updating of the temporary database from the source database prior to

7

Application No.: 10/039362   Docket No.: SMQ-047/P5187

generating a new report. The added new dependent claims specify where the non-peak load time can be obtained, the removal of data from the temporary database, and the update of temporary database with new data from the source database prior to generating new a new report.

Summary of Nwabueze

Nwabueze discusses a method for acquiring and presenting data from various sources to be used for business analysis. In one embodiment, the raw data from various data sources is acquired and stored in raw data type specific compartments. These data are then pre-processed to ensure data integrity. The raw data from each raw data type specific compartments is transferred to processed data type specific compartments. The transfer process includes detecting each raw data type and converting the different raw data types to a uniform data type. The processed data is then transferred to a temporary database where display rules are applied. The requested report in a desired format is presented to the customer.

Argument

As set forth in MPEP § 2131, "[a] claim is anticipated [under 102(e)] only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." The Applicant respectfully submit that, under this standard, Nwabueze does not disclose every element of the amended independent claims 1, 8, 12, and 16, therefore does not anticipate claims 1, 8, 12, and 16 and the claims which are dependent thereon.

Independent claims 1 and 8 include a step of determining that a current usage of an electronic device holding the source database does not exceed a parameter. Nwabueze does not disclose the limitation in claim 1 and claim 8 of determining that a current usage of an electronic device holding the source database does not exceed a parameter. Likewise, independent claim 12 includes the element of an access module which allows generation of reports after checking that the current usage of the electronic device holding the source database does not exceed a parameter. Nwabueze does not disclose the limitation in claim 12 of allowing generation of reports after determining low usage of the electronic device holding the source database.

8

Nwabueze's invention relates generally to data analysis and more particularly to a system and method for analyzing and unifying an unlimited amount of data so as to generate customizable reports generally used for business intelligence purposes. Nwabueze converts data of different types to a uniform type for the purpose of report generation. This is quite different from a software facility for generating and formatting web-based reports based on the current usage of an electronic device holding the source database without direct access to the database. Nwabueze simply fails to discuss the generation of reports in a non-intrusive manner concerning the database used.

Independent claim 16 includes the step of deleting the contents in the temporary database from a previous report generation. This step is not disclosed in Nwabueze. The Examiner suggested that the removal of data from a temporary database and removing of the temporary database was taught in Nwabueze in col 13, lines 51-67 to col 14, lines 1-14, 39-51. However, what is taught in these sections is that customers may be presented with the options to modify the data presentation or contents, but not how to remove data from the temporary database or the temporary database itself. Additionally, Nwabueze does not teach how to avoid generating reports when the load on the associated database is high, thereby avoiding a significant impact on other database management activities.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn and claims 1- 33 allowed.

9

Application No.: 10/039362   Docket No.: SMQ-047/P5187

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SMQ-047 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: August 9, 2004   Respectfully submitted,

                                         By _____
                                         John S. Curran
                                         Registration No.: 50,445
                                         LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
                                         28 State Street
                                         Boston, Massachusetts 02109
                                         (617) 227-7400
                                         (617) 742-4214 (Fax)
                                         Attorney/Agent For Applicant

10